

Message Text

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16

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 T-03 OMB-01 AID-20 IO-12 RSR-01 /116 W

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P 131026 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1402

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

WGNQMMQMMEOJLZSNNHRFSYHITY 1469

AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 4040

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ASPAC

SUBJECT: ASPAC STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

REF: A. BANGKOK 3768 B. BANGKOK 4035

1. MARCH 13 ASPAC STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY MINISTER OF JAPANESE EMBASSY, COUNSELOR OF NEW ZEALAND EMBASSY, AND PHILIPPINE, KOREAN, VIETNAMESE, AND REPUBLIC OF CHINA AMBASSADORS. THAI DPTYFONMIN CHARTCHAI CHAIRED THE MEETING. MALAYSIA (WHICH IS NO LONGER MEMBER) AND AUSTRALIA WERE NOT RPT NOT REPRESENTED.

2. YESTERDAY (MARCH 12) AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY HERE INFORMED RTG AND OTHER ASPAC EMBASSIES (EXCEPT ROC) THAT IT WOULD NOT ATTEND TODAY' S MEETING, WOULD NOT ATTEND MAY ASPAC MINISTERS MEETING, AND WOULD LIKE TO POSTPONE MINISTERS MEETING INDEFINITELY UNTIL SUCH TIME AS " ANACHRONISTIC ASPECTS" OF ORGANIZATION ARE REMOVED.
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3. JAPANESE EMBOFF TOLD US THAT AT TODAY' S MEETING, THE CHINESE, VIETNAMESE AND KOREAN AMBASSADORS PROPOSED THAT THE MINISTERS MEETING BE HELD AS SCHEDULED, WHILE JAPANESE , NEW ZEALAND AND PHILIPPINE REPS ASKED FOR POST-PONEMENT. THAI TOOK NO POSITION. AS ISSUE WAS IN-CONCLUSIVE, IT WAS DECIDED TO CALL A SUBSEQUENT STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING TO DISCUSS THE MATTER FURTHER.

JAPANESE SAID IT WOULD BE " EXTREMELY DIFFICULT" FOR THEM TO ATTEND MINISTERAL MEETING.

4. JAPANESE AMBASSADOR (AS REPORTED BY JAPANESE EMBOFF) OBSERVED PRIVATELY THAT CHARTCHAI, BY PUSHING AHEAD WITH THE STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING AT THIS TIME, HAD IN EFFECT PRECIPITATED MALAYSIA' S WITHDRAWAL FROM ASPAC. UNGER

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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TAGS: PFOR, ASPAC
To: AIT TAIPEI
CANBERRA
EA
KUALA LUMPUR
MANILA
SECSTATE WASHDC
SEOUL

TOKYO

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